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BOOK NOTES.

THE latest additions to Professor Charles Letourneau's long list of volumes upon different aspects of human progress are two bulky works entitled *La guerre dans les diverses races humaines* and *L'évolution de l'esclavage dans les diverses races humaines* (Paris, Vigot Frères, 1896, 1897). Like the volumes on political, juridical and moral evolution, these works recount the usages of savage hordes, barbaric tribes and half-civilized peoples in a painstakingly methodical way; and then, in like manner, survey the development of more highly organized nations. It is cheering to find that Professor Letourneau, after his extensive examination of warfare in all parts of the world and in all centuries, is able to discover some ground for hope that war is really decreasing in the world. He lays much stress upon the rapid growth of a strong feeling against war as a means of settling international disputes, and expects that, in course of time, public opinion will become strong enough to be really influential in a large number of cases of threatened war. The concluding chapter of the volume on slavery discusses the past, present and future of labor. This chapter will naturally be compared with the concluding chapters of the third volume of Mr. Spencer's *Principles of Sociology*, in which the same topics are discussed. While Mr. Spencer's individualism is as stalwart to-day as it was when he began his sociological writings half a century ago, M. Letourneau has strong sympathies with many phases of communistic and socialistic aspiration. He believes that the time will come when the wages system will disappear and when the more dangerous and deadly kinds of work will be done by mechanical means. He expects that the actual aims of socialism and communism will in a large measure be realized, probably through a greater degree of social control over industry than is exercised at present, but probably not as a result of any of the revolutionary measures that socialists have advocated. The change will come about through evolution, and the wisest cannot now see just how the details will be worked out.

Some of the most careful and suggestive studies of social conditions in East London in recent years have come from the pen of Miss Helen Dendy. Miss Dendy, now Mrs. Bernard Bosanquet, has lately offered a somewhat longer and more consecutive account

of these conditions in a volume entitled *Rich and Poor* (London, The Macmillan Co., 1896). This work is divided into two parts, the first descriptive, the second consisting of suggestions for workers. In the first part are brief but accurate accounts of the parish, its institutions and its people, the family income and its expenditure, the women of the East, *etc.* In the second part there are discussions of the natural links between the rich and the poor, of work among the children, of local responsibilities and of charity. No better book than this can be found by one who desires to know the truth, stripped of all sensationalism, about the East London population, as presented by one who has for years taken a deeply sympathetic interest in all that pertains to the lives of the poor, and who yet has never been carried away by any of the socialistic or philanthropic fads of the age. Mrs. Bosanquet shows very clearly both that the population of East London has much to make life worth living and that the population of West London is far from being the heartless and luxurious class which it is so often pictured to be. Speaking of the economic condition of the sewing woman and of the difficult question whether customers should refuse to purchase the products of the sweat shop, Mrs. Bosanquet regards it as an almost infallible rule that good work is fairly paid, while bad and hurried work is almost sure to mean starvation wages to the worker. In this remark there is a thoroughly practical suggestion. Under ordinary conditions it is impossible for the customer to know with certainty whether goods are actually made where they purport to be manufactured, and it is a debatable question whether it is economically wise to attempt to limit purchases to goods supposed to be produced under particular conditions; but the rule of purchasing good work, and good work only, is one which, if followed, can have only good consequences, economic, social and moral. Mrs. Bosanquet has long been an active worker in organized charity, and her chapter on charity may be commended as wise and informing.

In the excellent series of small volumes on "Social Questions of To-day," edited by H. de B. Gibbins, we find an admirable little book on *The Problem of the Unemployed*, by John A. Hobson (London, Methuen & Co., 1896). Mr. Hobson has studied this difficult question from many points of view, and has made himself thoroughly familiar with the facts and statistics, as well as with the economic theories pertaining to the subject. He analyzes the meaning of unemployment, attempts to discover the measure of unemployment and to answer the question whether the evil is increasing. It is his

conclusion that, while it is impossible to answer this last question positively, the character of employment in England — and probably also in most other countries — is one of increasing irregularity. Turning, then, to the causes of unemployment, Mr. Hobson attempts to show that the ultimate cause must be found in a lack of adjustment of consumption to production. He believes that all suggested remedies which fall short of an increase of aggregate consumption in the community are mere palliatives; and that attempts to cure unemployment by making new employments will of necessity prove futile unless the conditions are such as to throw an increased power of consumption into the hands of those who will use it to raise the general level of consumption in the community. Mr. Hobson neglects to consider the very important fact that under modern conditions of industry it is necessary that the workman be so trained that he can pass quickly and successfully from one machine-tending employment to another.

Le Comte d'Haussonville contributes to the *Bibliothèque contemporaine* a little volume of studies of *Socialism and Charity*, in which he vigorously defends a view of the vices, crimes and poverty of modern society which will surely call down upon him the abuse of all sentimental people. He thinks that altogether too rosy a view of the future of humanity has become popular, as a result of the general acceptance of the philosophy of evolution. It is, in his opinion, a great fallacy to argue that because there has been progress in human well-being, as well as evolution in the animal kingdom, we may therefore look for the elimination of evil and suffering. Suffering can be diminished, but not extinguished. Le Comte d'Haussonville does not believe that the time will ever come when such evils as drunkenness, illegitimacy, prostitution and pauperism will have disappeared from human society; and in his judgment the notion that they can be suppressed leads individuals and governments to attempt experiments which are sure to result disastrously and to increase the very evils that are complained of. Only by studying each particular plan of amelioration that has been tried, criticising its defects and improving its methods, can we hope to secure such diminution of misery as is really possible.

Professor E. C. K. Gonner has put together in a volume of 251 small pages a large amount of information, exposition, criticism and good sense on *The Socialist State: Its Nature, Aims and Conditions* (London, Walter Scott, 1896). He describes his book as an introduction to the study of socialism, and hopes that it will serve to convince

its readers that the problem of socialism cannot be ignored, and yet that a final judgment upon it must be arrived at, not on any one aspect or presentment of the case, but after an even-minded review of the whole complex medley of interests, difficulties, dangers and advantages. The work is worthy of the author's purpose. The fairness and good judgment shown throughout are very well indicated in the conclusion that it would be presumptuous to say that no socialistic scheme will ever be realized in practice ; that probably most socialists, and certainly most socialistic leaders, themselves believe that no such scheme is capable of immediate realization ; and that any system which is to meet with success will have to take into more vital account than has yet been done the variable elements in human nature and the settled conditions which are necessary to the security of society, to progress and to the growth of the state.

Shortly before his death in 1893 the famous French socialist, Benoit Malon, summed up his previous writings in the two volumes *Le socialisme intégral*. These have now been issued in a new edition in two volumes by Félix Alcan and the *Revue socialiste*. The first volume contains a history of socialistic theories and tendencies ; the second deals with possible reforms and practical methods. A third and last volume, which was never completed, was to treat of probable results and to give the general synthesis. But the volumes as published will give a good idea of the French socialists and of the man who founded and till his death edited their chief periodical.

The *Handbuch des Socialismus*, by Drs. Carl Stegmann and C. Hugo (Schabelitz' Verlags-Magazin, Zurich), of which the first installments were noticed in this QUARTERLY (IX, 183), has just been issued in completed form as a portly volume of 878 pages. Attention may be particularly called to the review, brought down to date, of the socialistic movement in each separate country as well as to the articles on the lesser lights of socialism from the beginning of the century. Altogether the *Handbuch* contains a copious repertory of facts which will be sought for in vain in other publications.

The publishing house of P. V. Stock in the Palais Royal at Paris has lately begun a *Bibliothèque sociologique*, including the works of some of the important French and foreign socialists. Perhaps the most interesting volume to American readers is that which contains the less-known and manuscript works of Michel Bakounine (or Bakunin, as we are accustomed to spell it). The chief contents are his "Federalism, Socialism and Anti-theologism," his letters on "Patriotism" and "God and the State." Other numbers in the series

are devoted to Jean Grave (*La société mourante et l'anarchie* and *La société future*), Hamon (*Psychologie de l'anarchiste-socialiste, Le socialisme et le congrès de Londres*), Kropotkine (*L'anarchie*), L. Lacour (*Humanisme intégral*) and Ch. Malato (*De la commune à l'anarchie*).

Les problèmes sociaux contemporains, par Achille Loria (Paris, V. Girard et E. Brière, 1896), is an application of Professor Loria's well-known opinions upon the relations of private property and economic phenomena to social evolution, the problems of liberty, property, population, socialism, social Darwinism, social evolution and revolution. There is little chance that Professor Loria's opinions will be extensively adopted by economists and sociologists in the United States; but his discussions are always suggestive, and the present book, while its treatment of social questions is nowhere profound, is interesting and at times helpful.

Those who do not read German with ease will welcome the French translation of Rümelin's *Problems of Political Economy and Statistics* (Paris, Guillaumin, 1896). In the German original they are well known as his *Reden und Aufsätze*, written between 1867 and 1881. The translator, Mr. de Riedwatten, has included in the French version the various essays on population, and the more general articles on social laws, ethics, politics and statistics. The volume is the fourteenth of Guillaumin's *Collection d'auteurs étrangers contemporains*, of which the three preceding numbers are translations of Westermarck, W. A. Shaw and Schulze-Gävernitz. This is the first of the series which is not to be found in English dress.

A good beginning in the detailed study of the social conditions of the individual American industries has been made in the two monographs by Dr. Carl Kindermann, privat-docent in Heidelberg, under the general title *Zur organischen Gütervertheilung* (Leipzig, Duncker und Humblot). The first, published in 1894, is devoted to a study of the laborers in the pig-iron industry; the second, to a study of those in the glass industry. They form installments of a larger work dealing with a comparison between American and European industrial conditions. Dr. Kindermann is fond of high-sounding classifications, and speaks of the "centralistic, organic and pluralistic" tendencies in modern development; but what he really writes about is the problem of government interference with industry. The monographs were composed under difficulties inseparable from only a short study on the spot; but they contain some interesting statistics and conclusions. The comparison with German conditions appears only in the second volume, devoted to the glass industry.

Among the strikes that have attained international importance, that of the glassmakers at Carmaux in 1895 has been of peculiar interest, not only because it became a political question in France, but also because it resulted in the starting of a coöperative factory by the strikers themselves, aided by a popular subscription. The whole story is now told in an attractive way by Léon de Seilhac in his *La grève de Carmaux et la verrerie d'Albi* (Perrin et Cie., Paris, 1897). It is in the main an objective statement, and the author does not indulge in any illusions as to the success of the new scheme. His fears have only recently been realized. The failure of the scheme, however, does not rob it of its value as an object lesson. A large part of the book consists of appendices containing the decisions of the courts on various phases of the conflict.

The well-known *Katechismus der Volkswirtschaftslehre* of Hugo Schober has now appeared in a fifth edition (Leipzig, J. J. Weber, 1896). The editor, Dr. Ed. O. Schulze, who has made a bulky little volume of it, has based his alterations chiefly on the recent German and Austrian text-books. The work, while of great practical value to German students, will be of interest to English and American readers only as giving in a convenient and compact form the general German view of economic theory and practice.

The *Cours d'économie sociale* by R. P. Ch. Antoine, professor of moral theology and social economics (Paris, Guillaumin, 1896), is of interest as the latest effort to expound economics from the point of view of the Roman Catholic divine. As was to be expected, far more stress is laid on the ethical than upon the economic aspects of each problem; and everywhere an effort is made to comment on actual burning questions in the light of the recent papal encyclicals on labor and other allied topics. Incidentally considerable information is given about the practical work of the church in the social movement.

Under the title *Economic Science and Practice* (London, Methuen & Co., 1896), Mr. L. L. Price collects thirteen essays on a variety of topics. Seven of the essays deal directly or indirectly with the question of industrial peace and with the English machinery for its maintenance and restoration. Of boards of conciliation, boards of arbitration and sliding scales Mr. Price speaks with balanced hopefulness. This machinery is not new in the United States; for in January, 1897, twelve states had established boards of arbitration. The public, therefore, seems to have done its share. It is less certain that those directly interested—the employers and the employees—have done all that might be expected of them. It

is possible, of course, that a mistake may have been made by attempting to solve the question by the creation of *official* boards of arbitration. It is more likely, however, that the defect lies in the private boards of conciliation, which are by no means so numerous or so well organized here as they seem to be in England. In his account of Adam Smith and his relations to recent economics, and in his review of the *Principles of Economics*, Mr. Price's work is careful and thoroughly appreciative. The criticisms, when there are any, are the silent negative criticisms of selection and emphasis. Nevertheless he is able to maintain throughout a certain independence of standpoint. The essay on "The Theory of Rent" contains some interesting and timely applications and extensions of the theory.

Students of French finance will welcome the *Éléments de la science des finances et de la législation financière française*, by Max Boncard and Gaston Jèze (Paris, V. Girard et E. Brière, 1896). As the title indicates, the work is devoted mainly to the administrative features of the fiscal system; and its distinguishing characteristic as compared with many previous works is the fullness with which it handles the administration of the public debt. In the matter of the public revenue the book contains a useful review of the development since the Revolution.

Among the handiest books on recent fiscal tendencies in France are to be mentioned the three volumes by P. Bidoire and G. Simonin entitled *Les budgets français*. They form numbers 15, 18 and 21 of the *Petite bibliothèque sociale, économique et financière* published by Girard et Brière in Paris. Each volume has two parts, dealing with the principles of the projected scheme for the ensuing year and the actual results of the budget for the current year; and they take up in turn the budgets of 1895, 1896 and 1897. As most of the important political discussions of recent years have turned on budgetary schemes, students of finance and students of politics alike will find in the little volumes much of interest and value.

In a monograph entitled *L'imposta successoria* (Turin, Bocca, 1896), Professor Alessandro Garelli presents a comprehensive treatment of the inheritance tax, especially complete as regards the theory of the subject. After discussing the theoretical bases of the tax and deciding to regard it as a payment in lieu of annual taxes, he gives a list of its virtues which almost serve to describe an ideal tax. Economically considered, he pronounces this form of taxation harmless in that it is not oppressive to industry, does not disturb prices or the action of competition by any process of shifting, does not

diminish any reward of labor or abstinence or disturb the normal distribution of wealth, and may make possible the lightening of indirect taxes on consumption. He finds combined in this tax the advantages of direct and indirect taxation, including not only ease of payment, security and small cost of collection, productiveness and elasticity, but universality, uniformity and adaptability to progressive rates. He denies that it has the effect of driving away capital; and maintains that, when heavy enough, it makes for social peace by conforming to the demands of the modern social conscience. A chapter is devoted to the specific questions of detail which confront the legislator; and the monograph closes with a sketch of the development of inheritance taxes in the principal countries of the world and a discussion of proposed amendments in Italy.

The last three numbers of the admirable series known as the *Petite bibliothèque économique* (Paris, Guillaumin) are devoted to two of the first and one of the latest of the French economists, Quesnay, Lavoisier and Léon Say. *Quesnay et la Physiocratie* is edited by Yves Guyot, whose preface of eighty-nine pages is quite of the *intransigent* kind and defends the Physiocratic conception of the natural order against the wicked protectionists and socialists. The body of the little book is devoted to a selection of Quesnay's more important writings. The volume on Lavoisier is edited by Messrs. Schelle and Grimaux, of whom the latter gives a good biographical notice, and the former furnishes an interesting introduction. The little work contains Lavoisier's chief essays on agriculture and finance, and is thus far the only collection of his strictly economic writings. Of greater interest to the modern student is the volume *Léon Say*, to which Mr. J. Chailley-Bert contributes a clear and appreciative introduction. From among the many writings of the celebrated statesman and economist, the editor has selected part of the famous report on the payment of the war indemnity of 1871, a memoir on budgetary administration and the notable speeches on the budget of 1883 and the tariff changes of 1891. The bibliography occupies twenty closely printed pages.

A laborious contribution to the history of economic literature has been made by Dr. R. v. Erdberg-Krczenciewski in his monograph on *Johann Joachim Becher* published as the second number of the sixth volume of Professor Elster's *Staatswissenschaftliche Studien* (Jena, Fischer, 1896). Becher has long been prized by the Germans as one of the ablest as well as one of the earliest Mercantilists. The author devotes almost one-fifth of the monograph to an introduction

on the Mercantile system in general, which is neither very new nor very profound. But the details of Becher's life have been industriously collected, and the methodical account of his views will be convenient to those who do not possess the original essays.

Professor Guillaume De Greef, of the *Université Nouvelle de Bruxelles*, continues his elaborate exposition of historical and social progress in a volume on *Croyances et des doctrines politiques* (Bruxelles, 1895), in which we find an interesting and suggestive review of political thought from the most ancient times down to the present. Peruvians, Mexicans and Egyptians, no less than the mediæval thinkers and the modern philosophers, have come in for examination. The volume is hardly to be described as a profound treatment of the subject, but, like all that Professor De Greef writes, it is well filled with suggestions, interpretations and flashes of insight that render it valuable to any student of this subject.

The title, *The Council of Trent*, given to the late Professor Froude's last published work (Scribner's, 1896) is somewhat misleading. Considerable space is devoted to a general review of the Lutheran Reformation, and only the earliest period of the Council can be said to be treated at all, as the concluding summary contains the only references to the decisive sessions of 1562-63. The fresh, independent treatment of a subject so badly handled by both the friends and foes of the movement is, however, most welcome. The book possesses the peculiar charm for which its author is noted, and no one, whether scholar or layman, will put it down without feeling that he has been carried into the very midst of the momentous struggle of the fifteenth century, and has gained much from Mr. Froude's shrewd suggestions. It is a pity that circumstances did not permit exact references to be given to the authors upon whom the writer has relied; it would be interesting to know the rôle that Erasmus, Sarpi, Pallaricini and the rest respectively played in determining Mr. Froude's conclusions.

Professor A. B. Hart is laying teachers of American history, especially in schools and colleges which are not well supplied with books, under great obligations. Channing and Hart's *Guide to the Study of American History*, which appeared some months ago from the press of Ginn & Co., has now been followed by the first volume of Hart's *American History as told by Contemporaries* (The Macmillan Co., New York, 1897). The first-mentioned volume contains an excellent bibliography, prefaced by judicious observations on the method of teaching history. The new series, of which Professor Hart is sole

editor, contains nothing but extracts from contemporary writers. It will consist of four volumes, the first of which, just published, is on the *Era of Colonization, 1492 to 1689*. The extracts illustrate the history of the discoveries, the conditions in England which facilitated and guided colonization, and life and growth in the English-American colonies themselves. The selections are made from a large number of representative writers. They are intended to illustrate the social and political life of the colonists in all its leading phases. The extracts have been judiciously selected and arranged, and probably accomplish the purpose intended as well as any such collection could do it. The series must prove a valuable aid to teachers, and should result in a wider reading of the original authorities.

It is very unfortunate that training in the use of books regarded merely as instruments is not yet recognized as a regular branch of our college instruction. The want of such technical training is nowhere more apparent than in the many slovenly works upon history which are written and read with the same serene faith that what is printed is right. In the hope of encouraging a more enlightened use of books M. Ch.-V. Langlois has recently introduced a course in historical bibliography in the *Faculté des Lettres* of Paris. His excellent *Manuel de bibliographie historique* (Paris, Hachette) is partially, at least, the outcome of his instruction. The earnest student or teacher of history will find this little volume a most useful addition to his works of reference. It is, evidently, the result of much careful and discriminating thought and investigation. The author has compressed into a little volume of less than two hundred pages an extraordinarily complete account of the bibliographical apparatus now essential to intelligent historical research. The book shows a cosmopolitan acquaintance with the work carried on in the libraries of the world, including those of the United States. It is encouraging to see the Boston Public Library and the Athenæum termed "*deux bibliothèques modèles*." The second part of the work is to be devoted to a comparative account of the scholarly activity in the field of history in the various countries of the world, and will describe the great coöperative undertakings which are doing so much to advance the science. It is to be hoped that the completion of this useful and original essay will not be long delayed.